

To the memory of Professor Shuichi Tasaki

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Professor Shuichi Tasaki has been my best friend for more than 20 years. I do not remember where and how we got acquainted with each other; maybe at a conference held somewhere. He is a quiet person and has never been forward.

I remember the time when he visited IIAS (International Institute for Advanced Studies, located south of Kyoto) with Nobel laureate Professor Ilya Prigogine who gave a lecture there. I had an opportunity to talk to Professor Tasaki only briefly, however I remember that he is a man of discretion and behaves friendly. Since then we have kept good friendship.

As for the academic relationship, we were given remarkable opportunities. Since 1997, I have organized a five year research project “Quantum Information Theoretical Approach to Life Science” at Meijo University, supported by the Ministry of Education. Professor Tasaki agreed with our idea and he supported us by participating the international conferences organized under the research plan of the project at Meijo University

On the occasion of 2000 conference, i.e. the IIIrd Conference of the Project, he delivered a talk on “Current fluctuations in nonequilibrium steady states” which has stimulated our research very much. Also, on the Vth conference held 2001, he talked under the title “Entropy production of a one-dimensional lattice conductor”. It is quite interesting for us all, so that we discussed on this topic during the conference period.

I myself, as the organizer of the conference, was very much grateful to his profound contributions.

In line with the idea of the project mentioned above, we have established a research agreement with the Solvay Institute, where Professor Tasaki studied for many years, if I understand correctly. Under the agreement on joint research with the Institute I have often visited Brussels.

Once I met Professor Tasaki there, I do not remember correctly when, maybe in 2003. On that occasion, we discussed some mathematics, in addition, he was so kind to have a guided tour of Brussels telling some historical story of the city Brussels. Needless to say, I had extremely pleasant day with him.

One more event I remember is concerned with the encounter with Professor George Sudarshan, who was once invited by Professor Tasaki, to Waseda University where he was working. I was invited, too, to my great honor. It was 2003 if I remember correctly. I enjoyed the discussion among us three and I did recognize his broad knowledge on sciences, which has stimulated our research.

Many pleasant memories are brought back in rapid succession, but now I stop.

May I say loudly
“Tasaki san !”

No answer : We are now living in the different world.

Only thing I can do is to pay my deep respect to his memory.